

THE WEATHER FORECAST. '

Fair to-day; to-morrow increasing clouds iness; little change in temperature. Highest temperature yesterday, 34; lowest, 174

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PRICE TWO CENTS.

OF \$32,295,000 IN MANHATTAN

tal Valuation of \$8,584,-352,511 for City.

\$10,000,000 INCREASE IN BORROWING POWER

Exceed Those for 1915 by \$24,478,395.

prepared by the Board of Tax Commissubmitted at noon to-day to the Board of Aldermen, show a total ments, and \$376,530,150 of personal property. The 1916 tax rate will be computed on a basis of these figures.

The total increase in the assessed attacked also on Sunday, but the French

the total increase in personal property is \$24,478,395 more than last year. This means that the increase in the city's On the northern Verdun front them. borrowing capacity is stightly less than was little activity to-day, although last \$10,000,000 this year as compared with night the Germans resumed without suc-

There is a total increase of \$123,536,-519 of both real estate and persona; property over the assessment figures for

Decrease in Manhattan.

The most glaring feature of the Tax-Commissioners' report is a decrease in the value of Manhattan real estate amounting to \$32,295,000. This is the third time in the history of the city that Manhattan real estate values have showed a decrease. Last year the fall-ing off was \$3,450,000. In 1912 Manhattan rest estate suffered a loss in assessable value of \$2,375,000. The great shrinkage this year represents not only that of land values but also a net reduction in value after offsetting the value of all new buildings that were erected during last year. Hard times, removals

The increase of \$99,061,574 in real estate and special franchise assessments is made up of the following items:
Throughout the city ordinary real estate contributed only \$40,000,000 to the increase. The decrease of \$32,295,000 in

And find the second control co

LAND DECREASE Germans, Halted North of LA PROYENCE, Verdun, Force French to CRUISER, SUNK;

Assessment Rolls Show To- Invaders, Taking Several Towns in Effort to Cut Rail- French Liner, Taken Into U.S. Still Undecided What way and Isolate Fortress, Encounter Desperate Resistance—Claim 17,000 Prisoners.

FRENCH RECAPTURE PART OF LOST GROUND

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN. London, Feb. 29.—The German assault against Verdun has centred in the last twenty-four hours in an attack on the Personal Property Figures French line on the Woevre plain, to the east of the fortress. Here the Germans, according to the official Berlin statement, have taken Dieppe, Abaucourt, Blanzee, Watronville, Manheulles and Champlon.

These successes give the Germans possession of the line along the road exand personal preperty in New York city, tending from Dieppe southeast to Champion, not only pushing the line in from the east and southeast, thus takassessed valuation for taxation purposes the fortress, but giving the Germans of \$8,584,352,511 for the five boroughs.
Of this amount \$8,207,822,361 consists of
real estate, including real estate of corto the continued strength of the 81. porations and special franchise assess-ments, and \$375,530,150 of personal prop-

value of all real estate is \$39,061.574 were able to repulse the assaults. Man-over the assessment figures for 1915 and the total increase in personal property

\$7,000,000 last year and \$5.500,000 in

1914. The personal property figures
amount to only a little more than 10
per cent. of the tentative personal property assessment, which was estimated last
October at \$2.704,305,965.

There is a total increase of \$123,536. fortress until more support is obtained from the east. On the north of the from the east. On the north of the slopes of the Cote du Poivre the Germans are falling back.

Between Soissons and Rheims our artillery bombered important points behind the enemy front. In Champagne our batteries dethe Maisons de Champagne the Gerbardment continued on the northern front with less intensity than on the preceding days. No infantry action was reported in the course of the day. The Germans on the slopes north of the Cote du Poivre, of which the first

crest is occupied by our advanced elements, are falling back. We directed a violent fire on Samogneux, where an enemy battalion was At various points of our front in

the Woevre our artillery fire stopped attacks about to be delivered. In the Vosges there was great artillery activity in the region of Sennes and of the Ban de Sapt. To the east of Seppois our counter attack drove the enemy from certain trench elements into which he had penetrated

in the morning.

In the course of the afternoon two German balloons of the Drachen type which were before our front broke their moorings and fell into the sea in front of Panne-autre-Coudekerque. The aeronauts were taken prisoners.

Besides announcing the gains on the eastern Verdun front, the statement issued this afternoon by the War Office at Berlin said that the number of un-wounded prisoners taken in the Verdun fighting has increased to 228 officers and 16,575 men. Seven heavy guns, seventy-one lighter guns, and eightyix machine guns are reported in the

Germans Claim 16,803 Prisoners.

Very strong artiflery activity has continued at several points.

East of the Meuse we stormed a small armored work directly northwest of the village of Douaumont. Repeated enemy attacks in this region

e stopped at the very outset. the Woevre our troops have sed Dieppe, Abaucourt and Blan-They have cleared the extensive oded region northeast of Watron-e and Haudiomont and have taken. le advance, Manheulles

nd also Champion.

Up till last night we counted unwounded prisoners, 22s officers and 18,575 men, and, further, seventy-eight cannon, seven of these heavy. and of the most modern kind, eighty-six machine, guns, while

which we occupied. In the region of Verdun the born-Continued on Third Page of trade centres and damage due to high ef trade centres and damage due to high buildings are assigned by President Lawbulldings are as

The president and other assembly places come from the right and other assembly places come from the rodinance.

The ordinance bear the following in assessments came from the financial district. This was largely due to the hard times last year and the prevalence of empty offices in that section.

That part of the city bounded by the pace and promote the general welfare by making reasonable provisions requiring the streets for the first time in six years at the rodinance of white and colored people, restricted on the first time in six years and the prevalence of white and colored people, restricted on the first time in six years and the prevalence of the Women's City Club. Miss characteristics of the reduction: An ordinance to prevent the act of search and section. The ordinance.

The ordinance bear the following in the situation by appeared to the body due to the hard times last year and the prevent discussing. Mrs. Whitehouse said her name was given for the laustration by appeared to the body due to the hard times last year and the prevent with successing the white and collection and collisions between the act of search and well are the continued of the laustration by appeared to the white the continued of the laustration by appeared to the white the continued of the laustration by appeared to the body due to the hard times last year and the prevent deverment on the prevent deverment on the city of the contract.

The President date of the Women's City Club. Miss conflicted the situation between the contraction. The prevent development of the standary

Withdraw in Southeast 930 MEN LOST

Navy, Destroyed in the Mediterranean.

870 SAVED; TEN SHIPS SEEKING SURVIVORS

Melos—Troops Carried by Vessel.

liner La Provence, which had been used FUTURE CONDUCT OF as a French cruiser since the outbreak of the war, was sunk in the Mediterranean on Saturday with a loss of about 930 lives.

big liner, which was called "the queer of the seas" before the coming of the Lusitania and Mauretania, was mad

and 870 of these are known to have been saved. About 400 of these have been

stated merely that she was sunk. Submarines of the Central Powers have been | Government will adopt. The text of to-day's German official active recently in the Mediterranean, around Greece and her many islands, without warning. The sinking is said to have taken place | Copies of these orders were given

From the fact that some of the survivors of La Provence were landed at Malta, an island south of Sicily, and others on the Greek island of Milo, or Melos, one of the Cyclades group in the Sea of Candia, southeast of Greece, it is probable that the vessel was sunk in the probable that the vessel was sunk in the feed mile stretch of water between the stretch of water between the strength of the British censors at Faitwo islands.

York would not fire on submarines when warned by them.

'The Imperial Government issued its manders after having seen by the secret orders of the British Admiralty that the armsunent of British merchantnen is to be used for the purpose of attack, and the stretch of water between the stretch of the State Department is water water was taken or the stretch of the stret

Course to Pursue With Germany.

"SECRET ORDERS" OF BRITAIN DELAYED

696 Landed at Malta and Demonstration of New Submarine Campaign Looked For.

TEUTONS BIG ISSUE

The announcement of the loss of the No Lusitania Settlement Until Berlin and Washington Are in Better Accord.

is unknown. The Ministry of Marine of State Lansing are still undecided

however, and it is thought probable that Washington of the alleged secret ora torpedo destroyed La Provence. Re- ders of the British Admiralty, which cently the British steamer Fastnet and a Germany and Austria have cited in far from the last known position of La justification of their intention to tor-Provence. No mine fields are known to have been laid in the Mediterranean Sea

probable that the big vessel was Office as appendices to the German that the vessel intends to offer resistance. carrying troops to Salonica or transporting soldiers on sick leave or furof the new submarine campaign.

The ships are cruising back and forth in the neighborhood where the big former liner went down in the hope of picking up more survivors, but it is not believed that the death list will be materially decreased, in view of the fact that La Provence was sunk last Saturday, and the rescue ships have had about three days in which to report as to survivors.

Prom the fact that some of the survivors of La Provence were landed

The Cabinet at its meeting held to-obvious that such resistance to the warning by a submarine cannot be the meaning of 'armed for defensive purposes' even if it were universally of Wyoming, a Republican leader.

Mr. Mondell charged that as a whole the President's foreign poncy is inconsistent and indefinite and that as a requirement that the American Government when it requested assurance from the tailan Ambassador that the armed Italian Ambassador that the armed increanation to the meaning of 'armed for defensive purposes' even if it were universally of Wyoming, a Republican leader.

Mr. Mondell charged that as a whole the defensive armament is permitted by international law.

"This believe to-day by Representative Mondell that the armed increanation to the warning by a submarine cannot be the meaning of 'armed for defensive pu

anomated to the per serior of the better should be per stand of the per st

WILSON WANTS TO CLEAR ALL DOUBTS IN EUROPE

U. S. WAITS AS U BOAT WAR STARTS

ON ARMED SHIP WARNING ISSUE;

WASHINGTON, Feb. 29 .- President Wilson's letter to acting Chairman Pou of the Rules Committee of the House, asking for a vote on the resolution warning Americans against travel on armed ships of belligerents, follows:

My Dear Mr. Pou:

WILSON ASKS CONGRESS TO VOTE

Inasmuch as I learn that Mr. Henry, the chairman of the Committee on Rules, is absent in Texas, I take the liberty of calling your attention as ranking member of the committee to a matter of grave concern to the country, which can, I believe, be handled, under the rules of the House, only by that committee.

The report that there are divided counsels in Congress in regard to the foreign policy of the Government is being made industrious use of in foreign capitals. I believe that report to be false, but so long as it is anywhere credited it cannot fail to do the greatest harm and expose the country to the most serious risks.

I therefore feel justified in asking that your committee will permit me to urge an early vote upon the resolutions with regard to travel on armed merchantmen, which have recently been so much talked about, in order that there may be afforded an opportunity for full public discussion and action upon them, and that all doubts and conjectures may be swept away and our foreign relations once more cleared of damaging misunderstandings.

The matter is of so grave importance and lies so clearly within the field of executive initiative that I venture to hope that your committee will not think that I am taking unwarranted liberty in making this suggestion as to the business of the House, and I very earnestly commend it to their immediate consideration. Cordially and sincerely yours.

WOODROW WILSON. The White House, February 29, 1916.

of the new submarine campaign.

right to fire upon the submarine. It is fusal to warn Americans to keep off obvious that such resistance to the armed perchantman was not keep off

ed Counsels Here. WANTS TO FIND IF HE HAS FREE HAND

President Would Correct

Report Abroad of Divid-

Expects to End Impression in Berlin He Lacks Nation's Support.

MEMBERS STAGGERED AT THE CHALLENGE

Bitter Debate Expected-Some See Hint of Coming War Crisis.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 29.-President Wilson startled Congress to-night by marine policy.

The President wrote

to the foreign policy of the Govern

down every barrier against the pr

and seizure; guns which make the mer-chardman in fuct an effective fighting ship, equipped to fight, instructed to fight and expected to fight."

The President has perhaps unwith compileated the situation by appealing the Rules Committee for action, committee cannot act in the way President desires without going over